

## AFAFD Standard Operating Procedure 11

### **Command**

- The first arriving fire department officer will establish or pass COMMAND at any reported or actual structure fire, aircraft accident, hazardous materials incident, or other emergency situation. In those situations where an officer is not present, the senior firefighter on the first arriving unit will establish COMMAND. The passing of COMMAND should be done “face to face”, when practical.
- The first arriving unit will:
  - Acknowledge arrival on scene by radio.
  - Provide a brief description of conditions observed.
    - For example: *Engine 6 arriving, multi-story residential occupancy, nothing showing, evacuation in progress. Engine 6 will pass command and go in to investigate.*
    - *Command Crash-19, aircraft is down safely, crew is egressing.*
    - *Heavy Rescue-3 arriving, single vehicle accident, multiple injuries, extrication required.*
  - Confirm assumption or passing of COMMAND.
- The first arriving officer must elect an appropriate commitment for the company as follows:
- ***Nothing Showing Mode:*** The officer assumes or passes COMMAND and may go with his crew to investigate while using a portable radio to exercise COMMAND.
- ***Quick Attack Mode:*** If the officer decides to proceed with a “Quick Attack”, he announces that in a brief radio transmission, i.e. “Engine 8 doing a quick attack”, and leads the crew in an attack. The next arriving officer, if conditions warrant, assumes command and establishes the appropriate levels of supervision and fire attack support functions as necessary.
- ***Command Mode:*** The first arriving officer recognizes a working situation which requires formal COMMAND from the outset. The officer establishes a fixed command post and begins to exercise the responsibilities of COMMAND immediately.